

Meeting Summary for April 4 Technical Call – Transboundary Monitoring Task Group

Discussion:

The group walked through the previous meeting's action items to confirm status and identify any next steps. Most actions are complete with a few minor issues (see table below) remaining to be resolved.

The group agreed that we are ready and able to proceed with field work for 2019 and ready to report back to the broader task group.

US-ACE confirmed, as per previous discussions, that large volume sampling on Koocanusa Reservoir likely will not begin until May, 2019 due to frozen conditions on the Reservoir.

Mich will circulate doodle polls to reconvene the broader task group, targeting an Early May meeting. He will also share the updated sampling matrix document and US-ACE's updated sampling plan with the broader task group when sending out the doodles.

Residual Actions for April 2019

Item	Lead	Action	Status	Timeline
1	Teck	Develop summary table of activities taking place on Koocanusa Reservoir in 2019 (add BC activities to existing table)	In Progress	To be completed by April 12, 2019
2	Teck	Discuss any remaining logistics issues for Fish sampling with MT FWS	In Progress	To be completed by end of April, 2019
3	Teck, US-ACE, MT DEQ	Make arrangements for US-ACE to acquire 5 gallons of blank water		To be completed by end of April, 2019
4	Teck	Arrange for US-ACE to receive an additional cooler		To be completed by end of April, 2019
5	Teck	Update and circulate their final Sampling Plan		To be completed by end of April, 2019
6	Mich	Arrange next meeting with the full Task Group targeting early May; circulate revised Sampling Matrix document and US-ACE's updated Sampling Plan; identify issues for discussion including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data management activities• Data entry• Communication strategy / data availability• Lethal fish sampling• Plans for beyond 2020		

For Reference, Action Items from Previous Meeting (April 4, 2019)

Item	Lead	Action	Status	Next Steps
1	US-ACE	Update 2019 sampling and analysis plan to include: sampling medium; constituents; sampling frequency; number of sites	Complete	N/A Seattle District's draft 2019 sampling plan circulated to the team on April 4
2	Teck	Develop summary table of activities taking place on Koocanusa Reservoir in 2019 (add BC activities to existing table)	In Progress	To be completed by April 12, 2019
3	Teck	Meet with MT FWS to discuss logistics/arrangements for Fish sampling	In Progress	Rexford sampling scheduled for May 14/15 Teck and MT FWS to connect to sort out any further logistics.
4	MT DEQ	Related to Item #1 - Darrin to follow-up with US-ACE and Teck to confirm previous MT DEQ procedures for blanks, and confirm whether 5 gallons is needed	In Progress	Only remaining piece of this is arranging for US-ACE to acquire 5 gallons of blank water. Teck, MT DEQ and US ACE to connect to figure out an approach for the blank water. Teck and US ACE to connect to arrange for an additional cooler for US-ACE
5	Teck & US-ACE	Related to Item #4 - Teck and US-ACE to update their QAPPs in light of the blanks procedures info provided by Darrin	Teck: In Progress US-ACE: Complete	US-ACE has updated their sampling plan and shared with the group. Teck is in progress, expecting to finalize their sampling plan by end of April, 2019.
6	US FWS	Trevor to report back to the group about redbside shiner sampling in the US	Complete	Teck to confirm with US-FWS about when they want the samples/whether on ice or frozen
7	Mich	Edit sampling matrix doc to clarify different methods will be used due to conditions in Canada	Complete	Circulate to broader task group when reconvened
8	Mich	Flag issue of lethal sampling for discussion among other long-term issues to be addressed by broader task group (timing TBD)	To be flagged for next task group meeting	To be added to agenda/discussion items when broader task group is reconvened

9	Mich	Arrange doodle for next meeting, week of April 1 st	Complete	
10	Mich	Check-in for status updates on March 12 action items and develop agenda for next meeting.	Complete	

For Reference from Previous Meeting (March 12, 2019)

Discussion:

- Reviewed Jan 30 Action Items in full:
 - Action 1 complete
 - Action 2 requires further work re: blanks logistics/procedures.
 - **New related action** for Darrin (MT DEQ) to follow-up regarding previous MT DEQ procedures for blanks, and confirm whether 5 gallons of blank water is needed. Darrin to provide the info to Teck and US ACE.
 - **New related action** for Teck and US ACE to subsequently update their respective QAPPs
 - Action 3 is in progress, to be completed by April 12, 2019, no concerns noted
 - Action 4 is complete. Any further discussions/decisions will be handled bilaterally b/w Teck and US ACE
 - Action 5 is complete
 - Action 6 is complete
 - **New related action** for Mich to clarify previous edit to sampling matrix document, to indicate the reason for different methods is differing conditions on Canadian side of the border
 - Action 7 is in progress
 - Teck and Trevor Selch will connect for further discussions as needed.
 - **New related action** for Mich to flag issue of lethal sampling for long-term discussion with broader task group
 - **New related action** for Trevor to report back on the next call about reddsider shiner sampling on US side of the border
 - Actions 8-11 complete

Decisions:

- Agreed on week of April 1st for next meeting for another status check and hopefully to confirm everything but the table of activities (which will be completed by April 12) has been resolved. The technical sub-group will then report back to the broader task group and discussions about longer-term considerations with the full task group will begin.
- Agreed that there may be a delay in first run of sampling due to frozen conditions on the reservoir, and depending on conditions in 2019 sampling frequency may be reduced from 4 to 3. Agreed to follow US-ACE's lead in terms of determining when it is safe to begin this work.
- Agreed the following items will be flagged for discussion/awareness of the broader task group:
 - Potential for delayed sampling in 2019 or reduced sampling frequency
 - Potential to align fish sampling methodology between BC and the US over the long-term, specifically regarding lethal sampling
- Agreed we need to be ready to begin work in the field mid-April

Action Items:

- Carried over:
 - #2 US-ACE and Teck to sort out logistics/procedures for large volume blanks
 - #3 Teck to continue working on adding BC activities to summary table of activities taking place on Koocanusa Reservoir in 2019. To be completed by April 12, 2019

- #7 Teck will connect with Trevor Selch to continue sorting out logistics for fish sampling
- **New Actions:**
 - Darrin to follow-up with US-ACE and Teck to confirm previous MT DEQ procedures for blanks, and confirm whether 5 gallons is needed
 - Teck and US ACE to update their QAPPs as appropriate in light of the info provided by Darrin re: procedures for blanks
 - Mich to edit his previous sampling matrix edit, in order to clarify that different methods will be used because of conditions on Canadian side (Complete)
 - Mich to flag issues for long-term discussion by broader task group, including lethal fish sampling and potential for delayed/reduced sampling in 2019
 - Mich to arrange doodle targeting week of April 1st for next call
 - Mich to check with participants for status updates and to develop agenda before April 1st

Item	Lead	Action	Status	Next Steps
1	Teck	Look at lab procedures/detection limits, assess consistency with US methods for Nutrients; Water Chemistry; Dissolved Se	Complete	N/A
2	US-ACE	Update 2019 sampling and analysis plan to include: sampling medium; constituents; sampling frequency; number of sites	In Progress	MT DEQ to provide info re: previous procedures for blanks; US-ACE and Teck to update their QAPPs with that info
3	Teck	Develop summary table of activities taking place on Kootenai Reservoir in 2019 (add BC activities to existing table)	In Progress	Estimated completion by April 12, 2019
4	Teck	Meet with US-ACE, discuss particulates logistics for lab analysis	Complete	N/A
5	MT DEQ	Send Teck QAPPs/SAPPs for surface and benthic macroinvertebrates sampling from previous years	Complete	N/A
6	Teck	Evaluate MT DEQ's QAPPs/SAPPs for surface and benthic macroinvertebrates. Discuss with MT FWS/MT DEQ as needed to assess whether methods applied in BC can also be applied in US portion of the reservoir	Complete	Mich to update sampling matrix document to clarify why different methods will be used in Canada
7	Teck	Meet with MT FWS to discuss logistics/arrangements for Fish sampling	In Progress	Teck and Trevor to continue discussions. Trevor to report back to the group re: reddsider shiner sampling in US
8	Mich	Follow-up mid-February to check on status of action items and develop agenda for end February-28-March 12 call	Complete	Review Jan 30 Action Items on March 12 call, identify next steps
9	Mich	Summarize Jan 30 decisions and action items, circulate for review	Complete	N/A
10	Mich	Edit sampling matrix to clarify	Complete	Circulate to rest of Transboundary Project Team at next meeting of full team

11	Mich	Doodle/schedule Feb 28 call	Complete	N/A
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For Reference from Previous Meeting (January 30, 2019)

Decisions

- Regarding line items #1, 2 and 4 (Nutrients; Water Chemistry; Dissolved Se)
 - Current methodologies used in Canada vs. US are different, we will move forward with those different approaches and evaluate whether changes are needed for consistency next year based on the results and whether we're seeing differences between the near-border sites
- Regarding Zooplankton:
 - US-ACE will procure an 80 micron mesh net for zooplankton – for consistency with Teck's approach in BC
 - US-ACE will not be conducting a full column sample. Teck will continue to do so and use the results to assess whether further discussion/analysis is needed on this point based on whether there are differences between the full column and the 10m depth samples
- Regarding Fish
 - Teck will come down to collect and process samples from MT FWS crew and will setup a contract to get those samples analyzed. Teck and MT FWS will connect to discuss logistics/arrangements
 - Teck is exploring options for the lab contract
- General
 - In-field work begins in April, need all these details finalized well in advance
 - Targeting end of February for next meeting
 - Expectation that results for today's action items and early iterations of any documents that require development will be ready for the February meeting

Action Items:

1. Teck will look at lab procedures/detection limits to assess consistency with US methods for line items #1, 2 and 4 (Nutrients; Water Chemistry; Dissolved Se) (COMPLETE)
2. US-ACE will update 2019 sampling and analysis plan to include: sampling medium, constituents, sampling frequency, and number of sites(In Progress)
3. Teck will develop summary table (similar to the sampling matrix table for this project) that adds info about activities taking place in BC - Intent is for a table that reflects all 2019 sampling activities on the reservoir on both sides of the border (In Progress)
4. Teck will arrange meeting(s) with US-ACE to discuss particulates logistics for lab analysis (COMPLETE)
5. MT DEQ will provide QAPPS/SAPPS for surface and benthic macroinvertebrates sampling from previous years to Teck (COMPLETE)
6. Teck will evaluate MT DEQ's QAPPS/SAPPS for surface and benthic macroinvertebrates and discuss with MT FWS/MT DEQ as needed to assess whether methods applied in BC can also be applied in US portion of the reservoir (COMPLETE)
7. Teck will arrange meeting(s) with MT FWS to discuss logistics/arrangements for Fish sampling (In Progress)
8. Mich will summarize today's decisions and action items, circulate for review (COMPLETE)

9. Mich will edit Sample Matrix table to add comment on line Surface and benthic macroinvertebrates item to indicate that two different methodologies for two different components of the reservoir will be undertaken (COMPLETE)
10. Mich will send doodle poll for next call targeting end of February 2019 (COMPLETE)
11. Mich will follow-up mid-February to check on status of action items and develop agenda for end of February call (COMPLETE)